

SOUTHERN AIR

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

President's Message
Kathleen Morley



It's the dog days of summer in Texas with temperatures over 100 degrees, but it's also time for a new school year. In just a matter of days and weeks, our campuses will begin to fill with students eager (or not) to get started on classes. I don't know about everyone else, but these students get younger and younger every year!!

Our annual conference is fast approaching, and this newsletter is full of information pertaining to presentations and workshops, registration, and other events. Be sure to check the conference website and SAIRmail announcements for updates.

For those of you who will be at the conference a little early, you are invited to attend the President's Reception Saturday evening. A special invitation goes out to all newcomers. There will be an all-day Newcomers Workshop on Sunday and Newcomers Reception Sunday evening. Be sure to get signed up for the workshop – those seats fill fast.

Congratulations to the new Board members! Thank you to everyone who ran for office and served on the Nominating Committee. Our organization is comprised of all volunteers, and I appreciate the time and effort given by everyone in the election process.

I had the honor of presiding over the SAIR meeting at the AIR conference in Long Beach, CA in May. We had a great turnout of SAIR members and friends.

I hope to see many of you in Memphis at this year's conference. It should be tons of fun as we celebrate "SAIR - Still Rockin' after 40 Years" !!

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Memphis was recently named by MSN as
 "One of the 20 Best Travel Destinations
 for 2013"!

For more fun facts about Memphis,
 please see page 4.

Calling all Newcomers Lee Sanders, Member-at-Large Newcomers Committee Chair

SAIR
Southern Association for
Institutional Research

<http://www.sair.org>

President

Kathleen Morley
Baylor University

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University of North Alabama

Julianna Proctor
University of Alabama

Lee Sanders
Southern Arkansas University
Tech



As we prepare to descend on Memphis in six weeks, the SAIR Board and Planning Committee are enthused about the opportunity to welcome our newcomers with all of the exciting and informative events that are scheduled for the 2013 SAIR Conference. There are several specially designed activities to assist you in becoming acquainted with SAIR, the IR profession, and your new SAIR colleagues. We invite you to join us during The Newcomers' Workshop and the Newcomers' Reception.

Saturday, October 05 – President's Reception for Newcomers/Early Arrivals:

A complimentary reception will be hosted by SAIR President Kathleen Morley from 6:00-7:00 PM for all Early Arrivals and Newcomers. Following the reception, you may join groups for dinner as well as an opportunity to meet, socialize, and network with other SAIR colleagues.

Sunday, October 06 – The Newcomers' Workshop:

This workshop is intended for those who are new to the field of institutional research. The purpose of the workshop is to help new professionals to learn how to make a strong start in their development as institutional researchers. Workshop attendees will develop a basic understanding of the role, function, responsibilities, and practices of professionals in institutional research. Attendees also will learn how to develop competency and improved facility in essential skills of professionals engaged in institutional research. Leading this workshop are Glenn James and Dana Dalton, who are both seasoned professionals in the institutional research field. The workshop will be held in the Peabody Hotel from 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM. Please register for this workshop online at <http://www.louisianau.com/sair13/registration>.

Sunday, October 06 – The Newcomers' Reception: Get Ready to ROCK!!!

We invite all newcomers to join the SAIR Board of Directors, Dinosaurs (SAIR Past Presidents), Special Interest Groups (SIG) representatives, and other SAIR members for this reception in the Peabody from 5:00 – 5:45 PM. You will have an opportunity to meet colleagues who share from their experiences and lessons learned as well as enjoy some refreshments.

On behalf of all of us here at SAIR, we extend to you a hardy WELCOME and hope that you are ready to ROCK with us in our conference celebration of 40 years of service to institutional researchers. WELCOME ABOARD and please let us know how we can better assist you.



2013 Program Chair Mary Harrington

It's hard to believe our 40th Annual SAIR Conference is a little more than a month away!

Register by
September 13th for
"Early Bird Rate"

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to register for the conference by **September 13th** to take advantage of the "Early Bird" registration fee of only \$265. And be sure to reserve your room at the historic [Peabody Hotel](#) at the special conference rate of \$159, which is guaranteed until **September 3rd**.

Some fantastic pre-conference [workshops](#) are being offered covering a variety of topics. SAIR is again offering an all-day Newcomers Workshop on Sunday. This workshop always fills up quickly so register soon if you plan to attend this popular session. In addition, we have a fantastic lineup of presentations, roundtables, and special interest groups.

We are very excited that our Sunday evening keynote speaker will be **Dr. Belle Wheelan**, President of the Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges. Those of you who have heard Dr. Wheelan speak know first-hand what a dynamic and engaging presenter she is. For those who have never heard her, you are indeed in for a treat.

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Belle Wheelan,
President of SACS-COC

FREE Special Event:
Monday Night "Rocking
on the Rooftop"

On Monday night, we will celebrate SAIR's 40th birthday in style in the gorgeous Skyway Ballroom, located on the roof of the Peabody hotel, offering breathtaking views of the Mississippi River. This FREE event will include music, dancing, and entertainment as we commemorate "**SAIR: Still Rocking After 40 Years.**"

When making your travel plans, keep in mind that we have a full slate of sessions scheduled for Tuesday morning. The State SIGs will be held Tuesday from 11:15 to noon, so be sure to stick around to network with your colleagues at these informal sessions.

Don't Miss
Tuesday Morning
Sessions and SIGS!

Come explore the
sights and sounds
of Memphis!

Memphis is a vibrant city headlined by music and full of exciting attractions, so you might want to consider coming early or staying late. The discounted room rate at the Peabody is available from October 3rd through the 9th.

We encourage you to register for this outstanding SAIR conference TODAY. (And consider agreeing to facilitate a session or two when asked during the registration process.)

Can't wait to see y'all in Memphis to help us celebrate "**SAIR: Still Rocking After 40 Years.**"

Mary Harrington
2013 Program Chair



Fun Facts about Memphis

- Memphis is officially recognized as the "Birthplace of the Blues"
- "Memphis" is sung in over 1,000 song lyrics and titles, according to Billboard Magazine - more than any other name of a city in the world.
- Sam Phillips, who some call the inventor of rock and roll, inaugurated the Sun Studio on January 3rd 1950. Some of the most famous singers including Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash and Jerry Lee have recorded several songs at this studio.



Graceland, the last home of Elvis Presley, is the second most visited historic home in America - second only to the White House.

The Memphis Pyramid, at 321 feet tall, is the 3rd tallest pyramid structure in the world - behind the Pyramid of Giza, Egypt and the Luxor Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas.



Most famous for its live music and entertainment, Beale Street also provides visitors with world class food and dining experience and an opportunity to experience the history of Memphis Music History upon every step taken while strolling down the street. With more than 25 clubs and shops, Beale Street offers something for everyone.



- The Rotary Lift (used by mechanics at all auto garages) was invented in Memphis in 1924.
- The Piggly Wiggly, the world's first self-service grocery store, opened in Memphis in 1916.
- Memphis is the Pork Barbecue Capital of the World.
- Memphis is home to FedEx, the world's largest overnight package delivery company. It was created by Memphian Fred Smith in 1973.

Peabody Hotel

Built in 1925, the historic Peabody Hotel offers visitors old world luxury and charm with modern amenities. At 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily, spectators can watch the Peabody Ducks march to the tune of "King Cotton March" all the way to the lobby fountain.

- Out of 70,000 hotels the Peabody Hotel is one of 125 Four-Star hotels to be on the exclusive Forbes Travel Guide list.
- The Peabody is an AAA Four Diamond Award Hotel.
- The Peabody is also on the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historic Hotels of America list.



**Member-at-Large Report
Edwin Litolff, Workshop Chair**



Workshop Schedule

Saturday

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday

8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Workshop Cost

\$70 per workshop

\$30 for Newcomers'
Workshop



SAIR Workshops are now available through the registration website.

Workshop #01 - Using Environmental Scanning to Improve Strategic Planning

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: This half-day workshop will differentiate strategic planning from other types, discuss environmental scanning, and provide case studies of external trends and their role in strategic plans. Helpful advice to implement a successful environmental scanning activity will be provided. (This workshop was offered at the 2012 conference in Orlando).

Workshop 02 - Analyzing Student Questionnaire Data Based on Partial Least Squares Regression Model

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: This workshop is intended for institutional researchers who are interested in learning the Partial Least Squares (PLS) Regression Model. Live data are used to illustrate how the model is constructed to analyze the 2006-2011 Sophomore Questionnaire Surveys. Artificial Neural Network (ANN) Model is implemented as a supplementary tool to offer comparisons in terms of model fitting, accuracy, and applicability. The workshop not only focuses on the model construction and assessment, but also the software demonstration. The intended audiences are researchers with some experience in linear regression.

Workshop 03 - Preparing For SACSCOC Reaffirmation of Accreditation

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation requires institutions to prepare a Compliance Certification Document that provides evidence that the institution is in compliance with the Principles of Accreditation. Institutions must also prepare a Quality Enhancement Plan. This workshop describes the overall process and relationships among the different aspects of accreditation. The workshop describes how to conduct a compliance readiness audit to uncover potential problem areas, implement changes to fix the problems, and have sufficient resources in place prior to preparing the compliance certification document. The workshop also addresses preparation of the Compliance Certification Document and the timeline for the QEP.

Workshop 04 - Forecasting Techniques in Excel

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: In this workshop, participants will explore forecasting techniques. Participants will complete exercises using trendlines, exponential smoothing, moving averages and regression. Discussion will include how to choose an appropriate technique and how to interpret the results. The Analysis Toolpak will be used in the workshop.

Workshop 05 - Hands on Predictive Analytics in Institutional Research

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: The future of IR as a strategic asset to an institution very much depends on how IR can reshape itself under the onslaught of accountability and resource constraints, by providing the executive leadership the proactive and predictive analysis for strategic decision making. For example, predictive modeling used in higher education allows colleges an opportunity to act before a student drops out or to plan for resource allocation with confidence gained from knowing which students will transfer or take a particular course. This hands-on workshop will present some of the predictive as well as the decision support analytics in IR using the SAS Enterprise Miner and census data from admissions, enrollment, and course registration.

(Workshops continued on page 6)

Workshop 06 - Pivot Tables: A Hidden Gem in Excel

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: Is there ever a simple answer to a question? Is there ever one way to interpret something in which everyone in a room would agree, with no follow up questions? In a world where there is more data collected than ever before, it has become essential to be able to analyze and present information in a way that is both dynamic and interactive. Learning and mastering the use of pivot tables can do just that. The presenters will share how this readily available tool can help you drill down, filter out, group together, and provide multiple summaries for just about any data set.

Workshop 07 - Implementing Institutional Effectiveness Rubrics to Deepen the Culture of Assessment

Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Abstract: Rubrics support examination of the extent to which the specified criteria have been reached and provide feedback to improve performance. This workshop illustrates how Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Assessment Rubrics were developed and implemented at the University of Central Florida as tools for scoring IE plans and results from academic programs and administrative and educational support services areas. Participants will understand the benefits of using IE Assessment Rubrics to promote evidence-based change. Working in groups, participants will develop strategies to design and implement rubrics in their own institutions and will apply rubrics to IE assessment plans and results reports.

Workshop 08 - Longitudinal Studies: Context, Measures, Construction and Tools

Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Abstract: This workshop presents material from a monograph developed with an Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) grant to DePaul University to provide technical assistance to the Illinois Higher Education Consortium and the Illinois Longitudinal Data System under a grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. It provides an introduction to, context for, and examples of longitudinal studies. Technical aspects are discussed, including construction, methodological concerns, storage and display, and the different sources of data that may be included. Participants will learn how to leverage whatever data and tools are at their disposal to ask critical questions of interest about longitudinal data.

Workshop 09 - Newcomers Workshop - Strong Start: A Workshop for New Institutional Researchers (Newcomers Workshop \$30)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: This workshop is intended for those who are new to the field of institutional research. The purpose of the workshop is to help new professionals to learn how to make a strong start in their development as institutional researchers. Workshop attendees will develop a basic understanding of the role, function, responsibilities, and practices of professionals in institutional research. Attendees also will learn how to develop competency and improved facility in essential skills of professionals engaged in institutional research.

Workshop 10 - Accessing and Using NCES Surveys Using DAS, Quickstat and PowerStat

Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Abstract: This workshop will offer participants an introduction to NCES Longitudinal Surveys (NPSAS, NSOPF, B&B etc) and IPEDS data tools such as Quickstat, PowerStat and DAS. Each tool will be briefly introduced as a means that researchers can access the collection of NCES longitudinal surveys and IPEDS data. These sources are useful for peer comparisons and general research. Through a combination of exercises and examples, attendees will become familiar with Quickstat, Powerstat and DAS online processes and data sources.

Workshop 11 - Can Access leave you "All shook up?"

Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: Yes! (And that is a good thing.) Microsoft Access is intimidating but it can be a tremendous help to your office and leave you all shook up with possibilities.

Workshop 12 - Using Excel's Analysis Toolpak

Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Abstract: This hands-on workshop will cover the use of the Analysis Toolpak in Excel. Participants will learn how to prepare data, perform analyses, and interpret the results. Exercises will include descriptive statistics and basic inferential statistics (e.g., correlation, t-tests, ANOVA). Participants should be proficient in Excel and in the use of functions and formulas.

(Workshops continued on page 7)

Member-at-Large Report
Edwin Litolff, Workshop Chair (continued)

Workshop 13 - Organizing and Managing Program Assessment

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: An increasing focus on accountability and continuous improvement in higher education has resulted in program assessment challenges. Many institutions have good procedures for developing assessment plans, but frequently have not developed processes for managing the development and use of those plans on an institution-wide basis. This workshop reviews the elements of program assessment plans and shows participants how to develop a system to organize and manage program assessment. The workshop guides you to use a submission and review process that promotes a quality assurance approach ensuring continuous improvement of the assessment process and a successful institution-wide system for program assessment.

Workshop 14 - US News Rankings: Sensitivity Analysis for an Institution to Predict Its Rank Under Various Scenarios

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: An innovative model is designed to address the request from senior administration to improve on categories gauged by US News' ranking formula. Data are from US News spreadsheet and IPEDS. It demonstrates how an institution may perform in the ranking ladder under different scenarios. The sensitivity analysis can identify the weakest indices, so the institution can utilize its limited resources in the most cost-effective ways for improvement. The scenario analysis will choose the best options among the combinations of assumptions so that the institution can find the best favorable outcomes. Excel spreadsheet is the only implementing tool, ensuring wide applications.

Workshop 15 - A Gentle Introduction to R for IR Practitioners

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: The goal of the workshop is to familiarize participants with the free software system R. Written and supported by academics and programmers across disciplines, R provides users with a flexible and powerful array of packages and options for describing, displaying, and analyzing data. Participants will get experience with data management, manipulation, and analysis using postsecondary datasets. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will get access to software code and resources to further explore the capabilities of R.

Workshop 16 - Utilizing Business Intelligence for Data Analysis and Reporting

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Abstract: Data driven decision making and analytics is a big trend in higher education. A major challenge is having easy access to the information across the many data stores on your campus. Data warehouse solutions can provide quick reports to answer standard questions, but expanding the warehouse often takes months. Private corporations have used analytics and business intelligence applications for many years to increase performance, efficiency, reduce costs, and increase sales. This session will focus on using a Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition, OBIEE, to provide streamlined reporting and easy access to data across many systems. Topics will include: drag and drop report creation in under 2 minutes, publishing reports to end users, integrating Microsoft Excel with OBIEE for real-time data updates, and automating reports to automatically run and be delivered to the user throughout the year.

We would like to especially thank Southwest Tennessee Community College for hosting the workshops in their computer labs. They have excellent facilities close to the hotel and across from Sun Records, who discovered and recorded such influential musicians as [Elvis Presley](#), [Carl Perkins](#), [Roy Orbison](#), [Jerry Lee Lewis](#) and [Johnny Cash](#).

SOUTHWEST
TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Member-at-Large Report
Julianna Proctor, Vendor Relations**

SAIR would like to thank the fantastic group of organizations that have come together to sponsor our 2013 Conference in Memphis.

Please show your support and appreciation by visiting our sponsor website links on the 2013 SAIR Conference sponsor page at <http://www.louisianau.com/sair13/sponsors.php>. During the conference, plan your visit to the exhibit hall on Sunday afternoon or until 6:00 Monday evening to find out more about the products and services offered. Our Platinum and Gold Sponsors will showcase their product/service in sessions during the conference, so be sure to check out the conference schedule and plan to attend.

PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	EXHIBITOR
Digital Measures TaskStream	Campus Labs SAS iDashboards Scantron Nuventive TK20 U.S. News Xiatrix	Thomson Reuters	PACAT Rapid Insight Starfish Retention Solutions

Becoming a sponsor/exhibitor is a wonderful way to connect with our community of professionals. Don't see your favorite sponsor/exhibitor in the list? There's still time to reach out to those companies and bring them onboard. Please contact Julianna Proctor at jproctor@ua.edu or (205) 348-7207 to learn more about our sponsorship and advertising opportunities.



Facilitators Needed

One of the strengths of SAIR is the willingness of the members to help in any way possible. Facilitating a session is a great way to be involved in the 2013 SAIR Conference. As you complete the Conference Registration form, please indicate your willingness to facilitate a session by indicating in the appropriate space. Facilitators are needed in each concurrent session. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Member-at-Large Report Andrew Luna, Awards Chair

Now is the time to recognize a fellow colleague! The Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) has established three awards to recognize the contributions of members to the Southern Association or to the field of institutional research. Nominations will be accepted until **Monday September 2, 2013**. SAIR members are encouraged to nominate deserving colleagues for one of the following awards and recognitions:



James Montgomery Outstanding Service Award

This award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to SAIR over an extended period of time. Nominees must have been a SAIR member for over five years and cannot be a member of, nor a candidate for, the Board of Directors during the year nominated. In addition, two of the following criteria must be met:

1. have been a member of the Board of Directors or a chair of a conference, or a presidentially appointed committee;
2. have been an officer of, or a recognized leader in, the establishment of a state or special interest group which has been associated with SAIR;
3. have made a professional contribution to SAIR by being actively involved in a combination of the following:
 - a. presented contributed papers at the SAIR conference;
 - b. organized, offered, or acted as a primary participant in workshops at the SAIR conference or workshops sponsored by an affiliated SAIR organization or group;
 - c. contributed in some other specific significant way that has advanced the professionalism of SAIR.

James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award Recipients

1990: James R. Montgomery	2001: Mary Sapp
1990: Glynton Smith	2001: Edie Carter
1990: Charles I. Brown	2002: Theresa Smith
1991: Cameron L. Fincher	2003: David Fleming
1992: Larry G. Jones	2004: Gerry Dizinno
1993: Gerald McLaughlin	2005: Harriott Calhoun
1993: Donald Reichard	2006: Debbie Dailey
1994: Timothy R. Sanford	2009: Tom Bohannon
1994: Marsha Moss	2010: Sandi Bramblett
1996: William R. Fendley	2011: Ross Griffith

Distinguished Member Award

Distinguished Membership may be awarded to members or former members who have made distinguished contributions to institutional research. This award is a meaningful recognition of significant effort in the field of institutional research. The award is for the lifetime of the individual. (Persons retiring from active service in institutional research may be recognized through the award of emeritus membership rather than distinguished Membership).

A member or former member nominated for Distinguished Membership should meet the following qualifications:

1. has been an active and contributing member of SAIR;
2. has contributed substantially to the field of institutional research over an extended period of time, either in the practice of institutional research or in a supporting role (e.g. faculty, President);
3. has influenced higher education policies and practices through work or research.

Distinguished Member Award Recipients:

1992: James Firnberg	1999: Larry G. Jones
1994: Joe Sutton	1999: Gerald W. McLaughlin
1998: Cameron Lane Fincher	2002: Richard Howard
1998: James R. Montgomery	2004: William R. Fendley
1998: Glynton Smith	2009: Jim Purcell
1998: E. F. "Tex" Schietinger	2010: Mary Sapp
1992: Charles L. Brown	2011: Glenn James

Special Recognition Unsung Hero Award

This award recognizes the ongoing contributions of a member to SAIR and the field of institutional research and planning in the broadest sense. This Award honors individuals whose effort and initiative might not otherwise receive public recognition. The types of effort to be considered include management assignments, innovative projects or ideas, development of new initiatives, or other ongoing service to SAIR, other than as an elected officer. [For purposes of this award, "officer" is defined as President, Secretary, or Treasurer.] Officers are excluded in order to encourage initiative in fields other than political office and to ensure that the award does not become an appreciation award for past presidents.

All members of SAIR are eligible to receive the award with the following exceptions:

1. A person who has previously won the award.
2. Officers of SAIR shall not be eligible for five years after leaving their last officership.

Unsung Hero/Heroine Award Recipients

1990: Bruce Mallette	1996: Deborah Barshafsky
1990: Eugene Buckley	1997: Kaye Lawson
1991: Carol S. Hollins	1998: John H. Milam, Jr.
1993: Gerald Lunney	2002: Mary Beth Adams
1994: Tony Williams	2002: Jane Mathis-Hopson
1995: Theresa Y. Smith	2006: Donald Boeckman
1995: Nancy Ellen Soteriou	2010 Edwin Litloff

SAIR Awards Nomination Process

Send an e-mail attachment in Microsoft Word format by **Monday September 2, 2013** to Andrew Luna at the following email address: alluna@una.edu. Please put "SAIR AWARD NOMINATION" in the subject line of the email. The attachment should include the following sections:

SAIR Award Name:

Nominator information: name, current position, company or institutional affiliation, address, phone, fax, and email.

Nominee information: name, current position, company or institutional affiliation, address, phone, fax, and email.

Has this nomination been discussed with the nominee? (Yes or No)

Provide a **brief summary** of the nominee's accomplishments in reference to the award for which they are nominated; Has this achievement been the basis of any other previously awarded SAIR Award? If yes, how does this nomination differ from previous body of work honored?

Provide a **narrative summary** of 1,000 words or less. The narrative should evaluate the nominee's accomplishments and a specific identification of the work to be recognized; explain why the nominee is being recommended for this award with regard to the stated purposes of the award; if the nominee has received another SAIR Award within the last five years, specifically describe why this nomination is appropriate; if the nominee has received a previous SAIR Award, describe why this award nomination does not cover the basis for a previous award; analyze patents if cited; and if the nominee is not the sole author of works, specify the contribution of the nominee.

Questions regarding the awards process should be directed to Andrew Luna via e-mail < alluna@una.edu > or phone 256.765.4221.

Conference Fact Book Competition

AWESOME FACT BOOKS AND JUDGES WANTED!!!



The judging of the electronic Fact Book and IR website competitions are currently underway; but you can still showcase your printed Fact Book and Mini Fact Book at the 2013 SAIR Conference in Memphis. Anyone interested should drop off three (3) copies of their document(s) at the conference registration desk by noon, Monday, October 7th, 2013.

SAIR Best Paper Fact Book: An impressive display of institutional facts covering a wide variety of areas for the purpose of one-stop shopping for information about the institution. The intended audience is the institution's faculty and staff and the governing Board.

SAIR Best Mini Fact Book: An abbreviated display of institutional facts covering key areas for the purpose of quick reference.

The intended audience is the institution's key administrators (quick-reference guide when away from the office), prospective students and their parents, and the general public. Some examples are tri-folds, pamphlets, and pocket-sized booklets (less than 25 pages).

Winners for all categories [Best Electronic Fact Book, IR Website, Fact Book (printed), and Mini Fact Book] will be announced at the breakfast meeting Tuesday, October 8th. Good luck to all!

Would you like to be a judge? If you would like to donate a couple of hours of your time on Monday afternoon, October 7th, please contact Andrew at alluna@una.edu or 256.765-4221.

Past President Denise Gardner

As my three-year tenure comes to an end, I have fulfilled my final two duties. I've had a great time and have been blessed to work with so many wonderful colleagues. But SAIR dinosaurs never really go away! I hope to see many old and new friends in Memphis this fall as we celebrate our 40th anniversary.

I visited two sites this summer for consideration for the 2016 conference. It was a very close call, but in the end I chose Charlotte NC. We'll be at the Westin Charlotte Hotel uptown on October 8-11. There are many restaurants and sites close by, and we'll have a great time.

Thanks to everyone who voted in the recent election. However, I was disappointed that there were many members who did NOT vote. Our organization has great folks who are involved in many ways, and when your coworkers agree to run for office it is every member's obligation to help them and SAIR be the best we can be. Thanks to the outgoing nominating committee for their help recruiting a great slate. Congrats to our new officers!



Sara Gravitt
Vice President (2014 Program Chair)



Paige Borden
Treasurer



Matthew Campbell
Member-at-Large



Mitzy Johnson
Member-at-Large



Bernie Braun
Nominating Committee



Rick Burnette
Nominating Committee



Daina Henry
Nominating Committee



Jana Marak
Nominating Committee



Jamie Redwine
Nominating Committee

In Memoriam

By Kathleen Morley

On June 11, SAIR lost a long-time member – Sam Lowther of Auburn University. Sam served on the Board from 1998 to 2003 fulfilling the duties of Member at Large, VP/Program Chair, President, and Past President. He was elected to the Nominating Committee several times. Sam also served as president of the Alabama Association for Institutional Research where he was awarded the Joseph T. Sutton Leadership Award.

Sam was known for his special sense of humor and collegiality. I had many conversations with him that were always accompanied by his quirky smile and twinkle in his eye. Sandi Bramblett recalls “I suspect that a good many of us who followed Sam as program chair for SAIR received a congratulatory message that ended with “whatever you need, let me know”.

Sam will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues.



A Word from Our Affiliates....

KAIR Annual Conference will be Thursday, November 7 and Friday November 8, 2013 in Louisville, KY at U of L's Shelby Campus. Conference details will be posted on the KAIR website at www.kair.org



TAIR will hold its annual conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-Galleria in Addison on February 19-24, 2014. The conference theme is "Big Data for Big Decisions in Big D." Information about the conference and ways to get involved in TAIR can be found at <http://texas-air.org>.



The Louisiana Association for Institutional Research (LAIR) held its annual conference June 5 –6, 2013 in Baton Rouge. This year's conference focused on "High Stakes Data" and covered topics relevant to the increasing demand for Institutional Researchers to report data to various entities and different audiences. Conference attendees were provided the opportunity to participate in professional development pre-conference workshops.

On conference day, Dr. James Firnberg shared with participants the history of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR) and Louisiana Association for Institutional (LAIR). Participants presented Dr. Firnberg with the first LAIR Legend Award. Other conference day presenters included Louisiana's Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Jim Purcell and members of his staff, representatives from Louisiana Workforce Investment Council, National Student Clearinghouse and Starfish Solutions.

The 2013 LAIR Annual Conference provided participants with an up close look at the important role of higher education data in higher education operations, strategic planning, economic and workforce development. The 2013 Executive Committee would like to extend a special thanks to the many volunteers for their help in making the conference a success.



North Carolina Association for Institutional Research

The North Carolina Association for Institutional Research (NCAIR) held its Summer Drive-In conference at the SAS Campus in Cary, N.C. on July 19th, 2013. More than 80 members attended, enjoyed a luncheon, and participated in five sessions offered by SAS.

NCAIR will hold its 41st annual conference on March 24-26, 2014 at the Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord/Golf Resort & Spa in Concord, NC. The Keynote event will be a discussion on competency-based education and its impact on NC Higher Education. Panelists will include Dr. Michael S. Johnson, Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff SACSCOC, Dr. A. Hope Williams, President of NC Independent Colleges and Universities, Dr. Suzanne Ortega, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, UNC General Administration, and Dr. R. Scott Ralls, President, NC Community Colleges (Pending). The Chancellor of the University of North Carolina Charlotte, Dr. Philip L. Dubois will be the luncheon speaker. A complete schedule of events will be posted on the NCAIR website as soon as they are available. www.ncair.net



The Virginia Association for Management Analysis & Planning

Dr. Mark Smith, a Vice-President of the SACSCOC, provided the keynote at VAMAP's spring meeting in April titled, "Moving Forward in the Review Process". The event was sponsored by Concord USA, developer of the Xitracs accreditation reporting tool.

Following the keynote, a representative from Concord USA gave a demo of the software, while Dr. Marty Sharpe, VP of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness at Old Dominion University, led a session on how they are "Addressing Student Learning Outcomes" using Xitracs. Tod Massa of the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) also presented a session entitled, "Transparency and Affirmation: The Mirror that is SCHEV" and highlighted some of the ways SCHEV, in partnership with IR offices state-wide, is helping higher education institutions in Virginia by providing longitudinal comparison data for accreditation reports followed by a Q&A session.

Plans are underway for VAMAP's Fall meeting scheduled for September 27, 2013 on the campus of the College of William and Mary, so all you folks from the great state of Virginia, be sure to save the date and stay tuned for more details!



SAIR 2014

As we busily prepare for our travels to Memphis, it isn't too early to mark your calendars for SAIR 2014 in Sandestin, Florida, October 4-7, 2014. Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa will be the location for our annual conference.

Look forward to seeing each of you in Sandestin!

Sara Gravitt, 2014 Program Chair

SAIR 2015

Savannah, GA
Hyatt Regency
Hotel

October 10-13, 2015

SAIR 2016

Charlotte, NC
Westin Charlotte
Hotel

October 8-11, 2016

Unable to attend the conference in Memphis?

You can still be a member of SAIR.

Membership Types

Regular (\$25)

Student (\$10)

Emeritus (free)



For more information on membership types, please go to:

http://www.sair.org/about_sair/Membership_Information/Membership_Information.asp.

**SAIR Financial Statement
2nd Quarter of 2013**

Assets as of April 1, 2013	Checking Account	SAIR	CMG*	PDCF**	Total
Bank balance	\$ 25,973.99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,973.99
Investment balance		\$ 32,830.46	\$ 5,468.09	\$ 5,337.15	\$ 43,635.70
Total	\$ 25,973.99	\$ 32,830.46	\$ 5,468.09	\$ 5,337.15	\$ 69,609.69
Income during the quarter:					
New and Renewed Membership	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00
2013 Sponsor payment	\$ 9,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,300.00
Checking Interest	\$ 0.68	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.68
Larry Jones donations	\$ 625.00				\$ 625.00
Investment Interest	\$ -	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 1.09
Total Income	\$ 10,325.68	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 10,326.77
Expenditures during the quarter:					
Corporate Registration (Florida)	\$ 70.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70.00
Cvent contract	\$ 2,475.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,475.00
2012 Taxes	\$ 325.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325.00
Elavon Merchant Account Fees	\$ 199.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 199.85
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,069.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,069.85
Total net income during period	\$ 7,255.83	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 7,256.92
Assets as of June 30, 2013					
Bank balance	\$ 33,229.82	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Investment balance		\$ 32,831.28	\$ 5,468.23	\$ 5,337.28	\$ 43,636.79
Total	\$ 33,229.82	\$ 32,831.28	\$ 5,468.23	\$ 5,337.28	\$ 76,866.61

* CMG: Committee on Mission and Goals

**PDCF: Professional Development Contingency Fund

Bethany Bodo
SAIR Treasurer
July, 2013